

Appl. No. 09/918,331
Amdt. Dated September 23, 2005
Reply to Office action of July 26, 2005
Attorney Docket No. P14425-US2
EUS/J/P/05-3229

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the allowance of claims 3 – 29 and the conditional allowance of claims 31, 33-44 and 46-57. As the Examiner has suggested, claims 31, 33-44 and 46-57 have been rewritten in independent form including all limitation of the base claims and any intervening claims. Therefore, no amendments have been made to narrow the scope of the pending claims or to create any sort of estoppel.

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 30 and 45; claims 31 and 46 have been canceled. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Claims 3-30, 32-45 and 47-57 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Examiner Objections - Claims

Claims 31, 33-44, and 46-57 were objected to as to being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicant has amended independent claims 30 and 45 to include the allowable subject matter of claims 31 and 46 respectively.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 30, 32 and 45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,496,694 to Menon et al in view of US Patent No. 6,260,186 to James. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of these claims.

Claim 30 has been amended by incorporating the allowable subject matter from claim 31. Claim 30 now contains allowable subject matter. Claim 32 depends directly from claim 30 and contains the same allowable subject matter found in claim 30. In a

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similar manner, claim 45 has been amended by incorporating the allowable subject matter of claim 46. Claim 45 now contains allowable subject matter. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claims 30, 32 and 45.

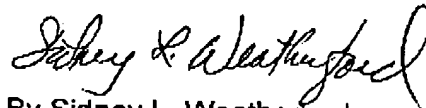
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



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